

City of San Jose

Advisory Committee for the Apartment Rent Ordinance

Income Qualification & Duplexes

Wednesday, October 7, 2015
Roosevelt Community Center







Item C – Unfinished Business from September 30

Ground Rules

- Speak candidly and listen openly
- Question ideas, respect Committee members
- One person speaks at a time
- Stay focused on focus questions

Item D – Income Qualification of Tenants

Purpose

- Directed by Council on September 1
- Explore setting a maximum income level for tenants
- Ensure that ARO apartments are available to lower-income tenants who need housing that is more affordable v. being occupied by higher-income tenants who can afford higher rents

Case Studies

- No direct examples of rent ordinances in other cities that include income restrictions
- Income restrictions have typically applied only to affordable housing built with public funding
 - Has a 30-55 year restriction on both rents and incomes
 - Gov't funded affordable housing excluded from ARO in SJ

How might an income restriction apply to existing ARO apartments?

Model 1: Income restriction based on apartment rent

- Maximum qualifying income changes as rent changes
- Take the actual rent
- Multiply rent by 3
- Add some percentage to determine the maximum monthly income to provide some flexibility

How might an income restriction apply to *existing* ARO apartments?

Model 1: Income restriction based on apartment rent

Example:

- 1. Apartment rents for \$1,200 a month
- 2. Multiply rent by 3 = \$3,600
- 3. Add 20% = Maximum monthly income of \$4,320
- 4. Multiply max income \$4,320 by 12 months \$51,840 maximum annual income

How might an income restriction apply to *existing* ARO apartments?

Model 2: Universal income ceiling

- Maximum qualifying income would not change
- Could set the income level based on # of bedrooms/household size
- Select an annual household income, ex. median income
- Example: State has determined the following income limits for a household of four in Santa Clara County:
 - Median income: \$106,300 (2BR apartment)

How would a restriction work for tenants?

- Prospective tenants must make less than the income ceiling of the apartment at initial rental
- Tenants must document their income
- Tenants must report their annual income to the owner

What is the role of the Owner?

- Explain the income limitation to potential tenants
- Collect income information from tenant
- Maintain all documentation for monitoring and compliance
- Submit annual report to the City

Outstanding Policy & Implementation Questions

- What is the purpose of the ARO? Protection against excessive rents AND/OR protect tenants because their incomes are low?
- How much documentation is required?
- What happens when a tenant's total income cannot be documented?
- Will assets also be used to determine tenant qualification?
- What happens if the tenant income exceeds the maximum cap over time?

What is the role of the City?

- Annual reporting/monitoring of rent & income compliance
- Addition of four staff people to review income and rent information for compliance
 - Increased staffing and budget for monitoring and compliance
 - Potential technology modernization for electronic submissions
- Increases in fees to support program

Focus Questions

- Is the income qualification of units consistent with the goals and purpose of the ARO?
- What might be the unintended consequences?
- What are the pros and cons of these models?



Should the City continue to explore developing an income qualification model for the ARO?

Public Comment

For more information visit:

http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=4744

Or scan code with your smart phone/device



Item E – Inclusion of Duplexes

Purpose

- Directed by Council on September 1
- Increase the supply of apartments available under the ARO by including duplexes

Duplexes in San Jose

- Initial research using two data sources
 - County Assessor's Data
 - US Census
- Analyze number of duplexes up to 1995

Duplexes in San Jose

- County Assessor's Data
 - Total duplexes: ~ 5,500
 - Total duplexes built before 1995: ~5,454
 - 11% of total ARO apartments
 - 4% of total rental stock
 - Number may increase pending additional analysis

Duplexes in San Jose

- US Census, 2014 American Community Survey
 - 2-apartments (renter-occupied): 4,670 units
 - 2-apartments (owner-occupied): 357 units
 - Total 2-apartments: 5,027
 - Need additional analysis to determine year built

Impact if Duplexes included in ARO

- More supply of apartments under ARO
- Duplex owners/managers
 - Would have same responsibilities as owners of apartments currently under the Ordinance
- City
 - Likely to have more mediation/arbitration hearings
 - Additional staffing needs
 - Increased RRRP fees

Focus Questions

- Is the inclusion of duplexes consistent with the goals and purpose of the ARO?
- What might be the unintended consequences?
- What are the pros and cons of including duplexes?



Should the City continue to explore the inclusion of duplexes in the ARO?

Public Comment

For more information visit:

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Open Forum

This time is reserved for comment on items not on the Agenda

Meeting Schedule

Date	Time	Location
Wednesday, September 30	6:00 - 8:30pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Wednesday, October 7	6:00 - 8:30pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Wednesday, October 14	6:00 - 8:30pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Saturday, October 17	10:00am - 2:00pm	San Jose High School Cafeteria
Wednesday, October 21	6:00 - 8:30pm	City Hall Wing Rooms 118-120
Saturday, October 24	10:00am - 2:00pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Wednesday, October 28	6:00 - 8:30pm	City Hall Council Chambers
Saturday, October 31	10:00am - 2:00pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Wednesday, November 4	6:00 - 8:30pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Saturday, November 7	10:00am - 2:00pm	Roosevelt Community Center
Monday, November 9	6:00 - 8:30pm	City Hall Wing Rooms 118-120

Next Meeting:
Wednesday, October 14
6:00pm
Roosevelt Comm. Center

Topic: Annual Allowable Increase